

THE SECOND MATRIX Part 1-The First Battle

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The ZS Messiah

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"Sir! Radar shows multiple enemy contacts! Range: 6 miles," yelled the Radar Officer. The Grand Admiral ordered, "Red Alert! All men to battle stations!" All through the fleet of four ships, klaxons blared. Men and women manned the plasma cannons (larger version of the gun that Cypher used in the movie), focused EMP cannons, and the more primitive (but still effective) projectile weapons. "Do you have a count?" queried the Admiral. "We're reading 30 Sentinels, Sir." "Open a channel to the fleet." When it was open he announced, "Men, this is the first battle of what may be a long campaign. Right now, 30 of the machine's H/K robots are bearing down on us." "Sir! Thirty seconds and counting!" The Admiral continued, "Give 'em hell, men!" The Sentinels flew in formation out of the tunnel and were met with a barrage of plasma fire. They utilized the strategy programs in their CPU's and split off attempting to attach themselves to the hulls and bore through. Right away, five of them were destroyed, but seven attached themselves to the hull of the ZS _Liberty_ and started burrowing through the hull. One Sentinel bore through an EMP turret, pulled out the human inside, and dropped him down the mile long shaft. Once the Sentinels knew they had lost this battle, the remaining Sentinels attached to the _Liberty_ self-destructed,

blowing a huge hole in her hull. She was stricken and the remaining crew abandoned her before her reactor core exploded. At the end of the battle, the _Liberty_ had been destroyed, and the _Independence_ had been severely damaged. But the Zion military had destroyed 25 of the machine's Sentinels, a loss that could not easily be replaced in their weakend state. The humans had won the first battle of the War.

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THE END

More to come in Part 2 of the Second Matrix Series

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